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03801 (US). **ULRICH, Karl, Thatcher** [US/US]; 316 North Essex Avenue, Narbeth, PA 19072 (US). **ULRICH, Nathan, Thatcher** [US/US]; 34 Sheep Road, Lee, NH 03824 (US). **YAU, Chi, Lam** [GB/US]; 2 Barry Street, Dover, NH 03820 (US).

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Agents: PANIAGUAS, John, S. et al.; Katten Muchin Zavis Rosenman, 525 West Monroe Street, Suite 1600, Chicago, IL 60661-2600 (US).

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**DAVIS ASSOCIATES, INC., 1100 West Monroe Street, Suite 1000,
Chicago, IL 60661-3693 (US).**

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(71) **Applicant (for all designated States except US): LUCKY LITTER LLC [US/US]; Suite 2503, 1730 North Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60614 (US)**

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(72) **Inventors; and**
(75) **Inventors/Applicants (for US only): COOK, Alan**
Jay [US/US]; 8933 North Kilpatrick Avenue, Skokie, IL
60076 (US). **GRUBE, Kristin, William** [US/US]; 600
Hillside Avenue, West Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46220 (US)

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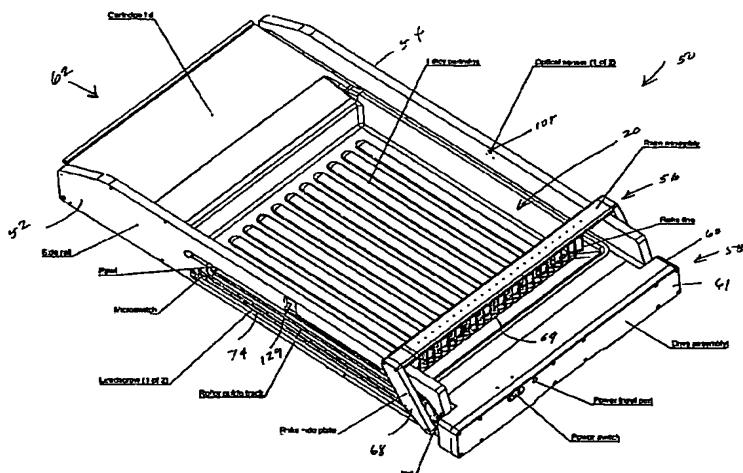
(72) **Inventors; and**
(75) **Inventors/Applicants (for US only): COOK, Alan**
Jay [US/US]; 8933 North Kilpatrick Avenue, Skokie, IL 60076 (US). **GRUBE, Kristin, William** [US/US]; 6000 Hillside Avenue, West Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46220 (US). **DEVLIN, Thomas, Edward** [US/US]; 1 Fitchburg Street, Unit C305, Somerville, MA 02143 (US). **GREASON, Jeff, Reed** [US/US]; 20 Dover Street, Portsmouth, NH

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(54) Title: SELF-CLEANING LITTER BOX



(57) **Abstract:** A self-cleaning litter box (50) which provides various advantages over the prior art. In particular, in one embodiment, the self-cleaning litter box (50) is configured to use a cartridge (20) which may include a litter compartment (26) and a waste compartment (24). In another embodiment, the cartridge (20) may be non-compartmentalized. The cartridge (20) may be disposable, thus eliminating the need for the user to clean the litter tray and handle heavy litter containers. In other embodiments, the system includes a rake assembly (56) configured with a drive assembly (58) that is protected from contamination. In accordance with another embodiment of the invention, the self-cleaning litter box (50) is configured to be used with all types of litter including crystal type litter.

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